



**CITY OF GREENSBORO
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Jeff Kimel
Phone: 373-2639

***CITY USING NEW TECHNOLOGY TO CONVERT WATER METERS
RadioRead Technology to Reduce Meter Reading Errors and Improve Billing Procedures***

GREENSBORO, NC (June 26, 2006) – The City’s Water Resources Department will begin converting water meters this summer to an automated meter reading technology called RadioRead. The new system allows City staff to obtain multiple meter readings electronically instead of manually and will benefit citizens through greater speed, accuracy and reliability. RadioRead will also allow the City to switch to monthly billing cycles to help customers budget and more accurately track their water usage. RadioRead’s computer technology will also generate more informative reports enabling the City to identify water leaks, thus reducing water loss. Conversion for the entire City will take place in phases over three years at a cost of \$13 million. The cost for RadioRead is built into the water and sewer budget, which is funded from existing water and sewer rates. This new technology was widely deployed by electric utilities such as Duke Energy and many other water utilities such as Charlotte, Fayetteville, and the Town of Wake Forest.

“By using the RadioRead system, the residents of Greensboro will benefit through future savings in the form of more efficient use of labor and fuel consumption in the meter reading process,” says Water Resources Director Allan Williams. “This technology is designed to automatically verify the meter reading data and is considered more accurate than visually reading the meter,” he adds.

Installation of the new meter will take about 30 minutes and in most cases residents do not need to be at home. During installation trapped air may enter the water line, but residents can run their water for a short period to clear the line of any air. For more information, call 373-CITY (2489) or visit www.greensboro-nc.gov/water.

The City of Greensboro works in partnership with the community to increase the quality of life for all residents by fostering an environment of inclusion, diversity, and trust. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a dedicated professional staff of 2,800 employees who

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maintain four core values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City is governed by a council-manager form of government with a mayor and eight council members. For more information on the City of Greensboro, please visit us online at www.greensboro-nc.gov or call 373-CITY (2489).

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